U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL MATERIALS AGENCY www.cma.army.mil

CMA NEWS | October 2011

CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of September 23, 2011:

Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.: The last chemical munitions stored on Anniston Army Depot were destroyed Sept. 22. Contributing to the overall achievement was the Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) team. The team destroyed 2,737 mustard–filled munitions since March 30, 2011. The SDC team handled problematic mustard munitions that could not be easily destroyed by the automated robotic equipment in the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility. The past months of SDC operations were filled with many challenges such as decontamination efforts, three emissions tests and emergent maintenance work. All of the experiences have been documented and the data collected to be passed on to the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives sites at Blue Grass, Ky., and Pueblo, Colo.

Blue Grass Chemical Activity, Ky.: Blue Grass Chemical Activity (BGCA) continues to collect data to determine if installing the Igloo Filtration System (IFS) will enhance safe storage. The testing is part of the commitment to provide optimum storage conditions for the munitions and safe working conditions for BGCA personnel, as well as maximum protection to the public and environment. Results from the data collection will be analyzed and released sometime next month. BGCA is involved in monthly speakers' bureau events to educate local communities on safe storage and to build a stronger community relationship. BGCA is now available to view and "like" on Facebook. Please let them hear from you!

Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah: Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility's (TOCDF) operations have resumed as workers began processing the Deseret Chemical Depot's (DCD) remaining stockpile of mustard rounds. These rounds consist of 4.2-inch mortars and 155 mm projectiles—safely stored in overpack containers. TOCDF operators use specially-designed cutting equipment to safely remove the explosive components for destruction. Meanwhile, workers at the Area 10 Liquid Incinerator (ATLIC) are preparing to conduct surrogate trial burns using a simulant chemical to verify the efficiency of the furnace before agent operations begin. DCD's stockpile of GA nerve and Lewisite blister agents will be destroyed in the ATLIC; expected to begin in November.

Pine Bluff Chemical Activity, Ark.: Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility continues safe and environmentally compliant closure activities—successfully reaching the first closure milestone with the completion of the Bulk Drain Station and Toxic Cubicle decontamination. During the week of Sept. 12, URS conducted a Performance Assessment Review with oversight from CMA headquarters. The site reached 5 million man hours without a lost day away from work case. These safety achievements have been accomplished while the site is performing closure and demolition activities.

Pueblo Chemical Depot, Colo.: Pueblo Chemical Depot (PCD) stores mustard-filled munitions: 105 mm projectiles and cartridges, 155 mm projectiles and 4.2-inch mortar cartridges. PCD provided support and participated in the Ninth Annual Avondale Veteran's Parade on Oct. 1. Lt. Col. Tim Greenhaw spoke at a brief ceremony prior to the start of the parade, and PCD Security Forces fired the PCD cannon to officially start the festivities.

Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.: Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) is in its final chemical agent campaign, HD mustard agent, and the end of chemical agent operations are on pace for mid-November 2011. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) issued a renewal of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Permit that governs operations at the UMCDF. The original RCRA permit was issued in February 1997 for a ten year period. An application to renew the permit submitted by the UMCDF in 2006 was accepted as complete by the ODEQ, allowing the facility to continue operating until DEQ took action on the renewal application. Issuance of the renewal permit clears the way for successful completion of Umatilla's chemical demilitarization mission and closure of the UMCDF.

Left: *A tray of 105 mm projectiles begins to cool down after exiting the metal parts furnace at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility on Sept. 22, 2011. The 72 projectiles had been filled with mustard agent and were the last of 661,529 chemical agent munitions destroyed at Anniston (Ala.) Army Depot as part of an international treaty banning the stockpiling and use of chemical weapons. (Photo by Westinghouse Anniston Protocol)*

Right: *A banner proclaiming the end of chemical munitions destruction operations hangs at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Sept. 22, 2011. The banner was unfurled when the last 72 projectiles, the last of the chemical weapons stockpile at Anniston (Ala.) Army Depot, were destroyed. Destruction operations began on Aug. 9, 2003. (Photo by Westinghouse Anniston Protocol)*

Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Completes Stockpile Destruction

On Sept. 22, operators at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) destroyed the last of the chemical weapons stockpile located at Anniston Army Depot, Ala. This ended more than eight years of incineration operations that began in August 2003. ANCDF used incineration technology, following an endorsement from the National Research Council.

The Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA) provided safe and secure storage of more than seven percent of the Nation's original chemical weapons stockpile. ANCA also was responsible for the safe transport of the munitions to the ANCDF for destruction. The chemical munitions and agents stored at the depot contained either GB or VX nerve agent or HD blister agents.

Working together, ANCA and the ANCDF workforce destroyed the stockpile safely—ensuring maximum protection of the installation and community population and providing treaty compliance. In March 2006, ANCDF operators completed destruction of GB nerve agent followed by completion of VX nerve agent munitions in December 2008. Sept. 22 saw the end of the stockpile, with the completion of the third agent campaign—mustard or blister agent.

"We made a commitment to the people of Alabama and to the citizens who live and work near or on Anniston Army Depot," said Timothy K. Garrett, ANCDF government site project manager. "We committed ourselves to the safe destruction of the entire chemical agent-filled munitions stockpile here. And today we fulfilled that commitment when the last mustard-filled artillery shells exited the metal parts furnace in the ANCDF."

> ***"We committed ourselves to the safe destruction of the entire chemical agent-filled munitions stockpile here. And today we fulfilled that commitment..."***
>
> –TIM GARRETT,
> ANCDF government project manager

Lt.Col. Willie J. Flucker, Anniston Chemical Activity Commander, said, "I am very proud of the contributions Anniston Chemical Activity employees made to the safe, professional, and overall efficient storage and destruction of our chemical munitions over the years. These men and women continue to meet and exceed my every expectation."

"This is a great day for the U.S. Army, the people of Alabama and our Nation," said U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency Director Conrad Whyne. "Thanks to the steadfast dedication of the Anniston team—the United States Army, its civilian workers and contractors—the Anniston community, the state of Alabama, and our Nation are all safer today. I could not be more proud of our workforce."

Most munitions at Anniston were incinerated in the ANDCF. However, a small percentage of munitions were too old or had the potential to leak, therefore could not be processed in the facility. Anniston officials used a Static Detonation Chamber (SDC) to heat up these munitions to 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit. This intense heat caused the munitions to self-detonate and then burn away within the sealed chamber.

With the completion of destruction operations, ANCDF moved into closure operations—cleaning then shutting down the facility.

CMA NEWS | October 2011

Pine Bluff Team Wins URS Chairman's Award

The URS project team for the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) at the Pine Bluff Arsenal has won the 2011 Chairman's Award in the company's Pyramid Awards program.

The company-wide Pyramid Awards program recognizes URS employees who achieve the highest standards of professional excellence and the projects that exemplify those standards. The Chairman's Award is the highest of the three tiers in which the awards are given. The PBCDF project was chosen from more than 1,000 submittals, representing 50,000 employees in more than 30 countries.

"We are honored to receive the Chairman's Award for URS Project of the Year, and we are proud of the women and men that comprise the Pine Bluff team for a noble mission well done," said Guy Campbell, project general manager at PBCDF.

The Pine Bluff team destroyed more than 7,700,000 pounds of chemical agent which consisted of 123,100 rockets, mines and ton containers of nerve and blister agents. The URS-managed and operated Pine Bluff facility is the first multi-chemical agent, multi-munitions plant in the continental U.S. to complete chemical agent destruction activities.

Left to Right: *Marty Buell, Mike Noyes, David Reber, Guy Campbell, Karl Dickerson and Greg Thomasson accept the Chairman's Award for PBCDF.*

"The project team for the Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility and all our colleagues who work on the project exemplify the spirit of the Pyramid Awards program," said URS Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Marin Koffel. "Their accomplishments are an excellent example of what we can achieve when we focus on a common goal—meeting the highest standards of technical excellence, safety and service to our clients."

CMA Participates in CBRNE Capabilities Showcase

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) participated in a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high yield Explosives (CBRNE) Capabilities Showcase Sept. 22. The event showcased Aberdeen Proving Ground CBRNE organizations, as well as other organizations, by coming together, exchanging information and demonstrating capabilities. Along with CMA, other organizations participating in the event included: Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, 20th Support Command, U.S. Army Element Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical and Biological Defense, U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense and the U.S. Army Public Health Command. Attendees at the CBRNE showcase comprised constituents of the various organizations' workforces.

This was CMA's first time attending the training event. Conrad Whyne, director of CMA, said, "Participation in the CBRNE Capabilities Showcase gives our workforce the opportunity to develop an appreciation of the other organizations here at Edgewood that they otherwise might have never learned about—gaining that knowledge and information face to face. This is a learning opportunity that CMA did not want to, and could not, pass up."

CMA displays included information booths dedicated to its four mission areas: Project Manager-Chemical Stockpile Elimination (PM-CSE), Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP), Stockpile Operations and the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP).

CMA also participated in a separate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education outreach workshop day—held the following day—hosting middle and high school students from Harford and Cecil Counties. NSCMP showcased its exclusive assessment and treatment technology for recovered chemical warfare materiel, known as the Mobile Munitions Assessment System and the Explosive Destruction System. CSEPP provided students with a learning workshop on how to prepare a shelter-in-place kit for emergency situations.

A local 8th grade student from Rising Sun middle school noted during the CSEPP workshop, "After losing power for three days during Hurricane Irene, I now understand the importance of keeping a shelter-in-place kit handy. Living in Maryland, we don't see many natural disasters, but in this month alone we've had an earthquake and a hurricane. I'll make sure I have a kit ready for the next time I lose power."

Col. Darryl J. Briggs Assumes DOSO position

On Oct. 3, Col. Darryl J. Briggs became the Director of Stockpile Operations (DOSO), which was previously held by Col. John J. Megnia. Col. Briggs is no stranger to the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA). He served as Commander for the Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala., from 2004 to 2006.

COL Briggs also has some history in the area. Before a recent deployment to Iraq, where he served as Chief of Staff, Multi-National Collation-Iraq CJTF TRYO (C-IED), Col. Briggs was Chief, Current Operations 20th Support command (CBRNE), at Aberdeen Proving Ground-Edgewood Area, Md. After his deployment to Iraq, he returned to the 20th Support Command as the Anniston Chief of Staff, G3, and served until his recent appointment to CMA DOSO.

Originally from Louisiana, Col. Briggs is a Reserve Officer Training Corps Distinguished Military Graduate, from the Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, La., with a B.S. in Biology. He also has an M.A. in General Studies from Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Ala.

Col. Briggs' military career has taken him to many chemical organizations within the United States and overseas. He has served as a Battalion Chemical Officer for the 6th Infantry, 1st Battalion, Headquarters and Headquarters Company in Illesheim, Germany and as an Exchange Officer for the U.S. Army Politically Exposed Person United Kingdom in London.

He has received the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon and the Air Assault and Parachutist Badge.

NSCMP Technology Brings New Faces to the CDTF

Jeffrey Harris, Deputy Project Manager for CMA's Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project (NSCMP), explains to Major General Edward Cardon NSCMP's role in the assessment and disposal of recovered chemical warfare materiel during a tour of NSCMP's exclusive technology at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility. (Photo courtesy ECBC Public Affairs Office)

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) hosted two distinguished visits last month at the Chemical Demilitarization Training Facility (CDTF) to tour its Explosive Destruction System (EDS) and Mobile Munitions Assessment System (MMAS).

Before deploying for his assignment as the next commander of the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea, Maj. Gen. Edward Cardon stopped by Aberdeen Proving Ground's CDTF to learn more about the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and and High Yield Explosives community headquartered here in Maryland. One of his stops included a tour of CMA's recovered chemical warfare materiel (RCWM) assessment and treatment technologies. Jeffery Harris, deputy project manager Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel, walked Maj. Gen. Cardon through CMA's capability to respond onsite to RCWM.

CMA also hosted a visit from John B. Nerger, Executive Deputy to the Commanding General of the Army Materiel Command (AMC). Harris and Carmen Spencer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons, walked Nerger through the life cycle of CMA's response to a suspect recovered chemical munition, from X-ray and spectroscopy assessment technology that ride aboard the MMAS, which can reveal the contents of a suspect item, to the treatment systems, such as the EDS, which would then respond on site and destroy the item using a neutralization process.

Fire Safety Tips

Oct. 9-15, 2011, is National Fire Prevention Week. During this week and throughout the year, Please follow these important tips to protect yourself and your family:

- *Install and maintain a working smoke detector on each floor in your home, and change the batteries twice a year*
- *Ensure that the required maintenance is performed on your furnaces, water heaters and any other heat producing/ generating appliances in your home*
- *Ensure electrical appliances are in good working order*
- *Ensure your grill is in good working order and has adequate distance from any structures or trees*
- *If you have fire extinguishers, check them per the manufacturer's guidelines*
- *Designate escape routes at home, and practice fire drills with your family*
- *Locate the smoke detector in your work place, and be sure to identify a fire extinguisher and workplace escape route in case of an emergency*
- *Consider using a battery-operated candle to light your pumpkin this Halloween season*
- *Do not burn leaves, recycle instead*
- *Properly store flammable and combustible materials*
- *If you have little ones, ensure that all matches/lighters/ spark or flame producing devices are properly stored and secured behind child-proof locks*

CMA News is produced by the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency Public Affairs Office.
For more information, call (410) 436-3629 or e-mail hqcmapao@apgea.army.mil.